Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 004985
ORIGIN NSF-02

INFO OCT-01 ARA-14 ISO-00 OES-07 COME-00 CIAE-00
INR-07 NSAE-00 EB-08 /039 R

DRAFTED BY NSF/ATM/NCAR:MWILLIAMS:JAC
APPROVED BY OES/APT/SA:JGDARDIS
ARA/LA:GALLAGHER(INFO)
----------099850 091842Z /41
P 091825Z JAN 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA PRIORITY

UNCLAS STATE 004985

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: TGEN,BR

SUBJECT: LONG-LIVED ATMOSPHERIC MONITORING BALLOON (LLAMB) FLIGHT IN SOUTHERN HEMISPHERE

REF: BRASIL 10579

1. SUBJECT, LLAMB FLIGHT IN SOUTHERN HEMISPHERE: THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION HAS BEEN PROVIDED TO US BY THE NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION (NSF) IN REPLY TO RETEL FROM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA.

2. THE LLAMB BALLOON WEIGHS 61 KILOGRAMS. IT IS MADE OF LAMINEA OF POLYESTER, ALUMNIN FOIL, AND KEVLAE WEIGHING 200 GRAMS PER METER. THE GAS IS HELIUM WHICH IS COMPLETELY INERT. A 7 KG GONDOLA IS SUSPENDED 30 METERS BELOW THE BALLOON. THE BALLOON IS COMPLETELY METALLIZED AND HAS A RADAR CROSS-SECTION OF 64 SQUARE METERS AT ALL FREQUENCIES. BALLOON AND PAYLOAD WOULD BE HAZARDOUS FOR IMPACT WITH A FIGHTER AIRCRAFT.
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3. WE CAN PROVIDE 24-HOUR NOTICE OF PREDICTED OVERFLIGHT OF BRAZIL IF DESIRED BY GOB. WE WOULD EXPECT PASSAGES OVER BRAZIL, IF ANY, NOT TO BE MORE FREQUENT THAN ONCE EVERY 2 WEEKS.

4. CUT-DOWN NORTH OF 15 DEGREES N IS REQUIRED TO PREVENT

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OVERFLIGHT OF CERTAIN NORTHERN HEMISPHERE COUNTRIES WHICH HAVE INDICATED AN UNWILLINGNESS TO PERMIT OVERFLIGHT FOR POLITICAL RATHER THAN SAFETY REASONS.

5. COMMAND CUT-DOWN WILL NOT BE ACCOMPLISHED OVER BRAZIL WITHOUT PRIOR NOTIFICATION AND APPROVAL OF GOB. PRESSURE CUT-DOWN IS LIKELY TO OCCURE ONLY AT LATITUDES SOUTH OF 50 DEGREES SOUTH. VANCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MONITORING
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 jan 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE004985
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: MWILLIAMS:JAC
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780013-0423
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
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Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780184/aaaactke.tel
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Litigation History:
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Message ID: 92ba6de5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN NSF
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Retention: 0
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Review Content Flags:
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Review Exemptions: n/a
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SAS ID: 3806311
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Subject: LONG-LIVED ATMOSPHERIC MONITORING BALLOON (LLAMB) FLIGHT IN SOUTHERN HEMISPHERE
TAGS: TGEN, TPHY, BR, US
To: BRASILIA
Type: TE
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